

Species	1995-1997	1992-1994	MBGBI imago
981 <i>Archips rosana</i> (Linn.)	29 Jun 97	29 Jun 92	Jul-Sep
1048 <i>Acleris variegana</i> (D.&S.)	29 Jun 97	17 Jul 94	Jul-Nov
1962 <i>Hylaea fasciaria</i> (Linn.)	29 Jun 95	22 Jun 92	Jun-Aug
1452 <i>Phycita roborella</i> (D.&S.)	30 Jun 95	7 Jul 93	Jul-Sep
1803 <i>Perizoma alchemillata</i> (Linn.)	30 Jun 95	13 Jun 94	Jun, Jul
2030 <i>Euproctis similis</i> (Fuess.)	30 Jun 95	6 Jul 93, 94	Jul, Aug

– ALASDAIR ASTON, Wake's Cottage, Selborne, Hampshire GU34 3JH.

EDITORIAL NOTE: Alasdair Aston's regular summaries of species emerging earlier than expected provide a valuable ongoing record. For the benefit of new subscribers, earlier summaries may be read in this journal at **106: 116; 107: 4; 107: 191; 110: 54; 110: 189; 111: 134; 111: 220; 111: 286; 112: 183-185** and *antea* 29-30.

Larvae of the Scarce Tissue *Rheumaptera cervinalis* (Scop.) (Lep.: Geometridae) at Charlton-on-Otmoor, Oxfordshire

In March 2000, I received a letter from Bruce Tremayne of the Old Rectory, Charlton-on-Otmoor, in response to an article (Waring, 2000. Conserving the Barberry Carpet moth. *British Wildlife* **11**(3): 175-182), about my searches for the endangered Barberry Carpet *Pareulype berberata*. He informed me of a hedgerow containing native Barberry *Berberis vulgaris*, the larval foodplant, which divides his property from the neighbouring field of rough grassland and he was happy for me to inspect it. I paid visits on 19 May 2000 to beat for adult moths and on 21 June and 6 September in 2000, beating the four clumps of Barberry, which I found in the hedge, for larvae. None was seen, and I saw no other Barberry elsewhere in the hedges round the field. However, the visit of 21 June 2000 (18.15 - 18.45 hours) produced six larvae of the Scarce Tissue *Rheumaptera cervinalis*, of various sizes up to two centimetres in length. These distinctive purple and yellow larvae were recorded and returned to the Barberry bushes. The Scarce Tissue was formerly considered a Nationally Notable species, but has since been found to occur much more widely, feeding as larvae on a number of the cultivated *Berberis* species now commonly planted in gardens, parks and along suburban and urban road verges. Waring (1992. Scarce Tissue moth *Rheumaptera cervinalis* (Lep.: Geometridae) and a search for the Barberry carpet moth, *Pareulype berberata* (Lep.: Geometridae) in Lincolnshire. *Ent. Rec.* **104**: 63-66), discussed the status of this moth and provided a national distribution map. Since that time I have found the larvae in many more places where I have beaten *Berberis*, both wild *B. vulgaris* and cultivated *B. thunbergi* and *B. ottawensis*. Beating for larvae is much the best way to find

the Scarce Tissue although the adult does come to light, particularly if the trap is placed by occupied bushes. It is unlikely that these particular bushes at Charlton-on-Otmoor have ever been inspected for larvae before.— PAUL WARING, 1366 Lincoln Road, Werrington, Peterborough, PE4 6LS (E-mail: paul_waring@btinternet.com).

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